ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES FISHERY UPDATE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner Jeff Regnart, Director



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JUNEAU HERRING UPDATE #3

The department conducted an aerial survey of Seymour Canal, Tenakee Inlet, and Lynn Canal this morning. Survey conditions were fair to poor with variable winds 10-20 knots and occasional rain showers. Seymour Canal was unchanged from prior surveys. No schools of herring or herring spawn were observed. A total of 200 sea lions and 8 whales were observed in the area. The sea lions were not active and most were spread out between the Rockgarden and Point Hugh. Bird activity was minimal in the area.

Tenakee Inlet showed significant change as numerous schools of herring were observed in shallow water between the Kadashan flats and Crab Bay. Approximately 1.5 nautical miles of active spawn was documented in the same area. Predators were actively working the herring including 4 humpback whales, about 100 sea lions, and many gulls and eagles.

Lynn Canal was very quiet. This segment of the survey had much improved weather with light north winds and partly sunny skies. No schools of herring or herring spawn were observed. One humpback whale was observed in the middle of the bay and no more than 10 sea lions were observed.

The Berners Bay estuary was also quiet indicating hooligan have not yet entered freshwater and may not have entered the terminal part of the Bay at this time.

The next aerial surveys will be conducted Saturday and Sunday and will include Seymour Canal and Tenakee Inlet.

Juneau herring updates will be posted on the ADF&G web site listed below.

News releases web site: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main.

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